

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PARISH

Alton Staffordshire

St John the Baptist Catholic Church, Castle Hill Rd, Alton, Staffordshire -
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Parish Priest Fr Paul Whieldon

Parish Safeguarding Representatives Josie Shepherd (07745 545196) and Jacqueline Shaw (01889 562422)



Newsletter for the Fourth Sunday of Advent 2020

Saturday 19 th	4 th Sunday of Advent	6.00pm	Pro Populo
Sunday 20 th	4 th Sunday of Advent	9.30am	Dec'd Alton Sisters of Mercy
	4 th Sunday of Advent	6.00pm	Bernard Edgerton RIP
Monday 21 st	O Oriens		
Tuesday 22 nd	O Rex Gentium		
Wednesday 23 rd	O Emmanuel	9.30am	
Thursday 24 th	Christmas Eve	3.00pm	John McNamara RIP
		6.00pm	Pro Populo
		Midnight	Deceased loved ones....
Friday 25 th	Christmas Day	10.00am	Nugent and Purton Families
Church open all day today, tomorrow, and Sunday till 4pm for visits to the crib!			
Saturday 26 th	Holy Family	6.00pm	Pro Populo
Sunday 27 th	Holy Family	10.00am	Winifred Edgerton Ints
	Holy Family	6.00pm	Private Intention

An Act of Spiritual Communion; *My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.*

Amen

Sick List Let us please keep in our prayers those who are not well at this time and those who have care of them...

Margaret and Michael Stapleton, Clare Ash, those with COVID19, Faber School Community, and all in our nursing and care homes, our hospitals and hospices.

Offertories Total Collections (inc Standing Orders) for weekend 12/13 Dec 2020- £252.00 of which £217.00 was Gift Aided

BOUNTY CLUB – APPEAL In order for us to recommence the Bounty Club Monthly Draws in January it is essential that we collect the annual subscriptions of £12 per

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person (cash or cheque payable to St John the Baptist RC Church) covering 2021, as soon as possible. Anyone wanting to join for the first time please contact Edwin (702254) or Stella (702097) or Fr Paul who will pass the message on.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS As is customary the collections at all Christmas Masses is your personal gift to the priest. May I add a word of thanks for your support, your love, and your collaboration since I arrived here 17 months ago, it is greatly appreciated. St John's is a small parish but there are great works to be achieved, building His kingdom in our midst as indeed the incarnation reminds us!

LOVE CHRISTMAS APPEAL Many thanks for the generous donations of groceries which have been made by the parishioners of St John's and KYT. Last week these were taken to Cheadle and Leek. Within an hour of unloading them they had been shared out and allocated to families who we know are in need of support at this time. That same afternoon they were distributed or collected from the schools. I cannot tell you how gratefully they were received by the families.

It is terribly sad that the need for such help exists today, and on our doorsteps. I was deeply moved to hear from the Principal at St Mary's in Leek who told me that even with the donated food, in at least one of the single parent families they support, Mum wouldn't eat. She would worry about just how long the food would need to last for her children and go without herself. The school support and help in every way they can, stepping in to enable their families to have the essentials which so many of us take for granted.

I know the 'Love Christmas' boxes will make the world of difference for the families receiving them. When life is already difficult and a struggle, Christmas can become a time which is feared by some parents. Thank you for the love, the reassurance of care and support, and the promise of hope for a brighter future which your 'Love Christmas' donations will bring. A. Howard



Merry Christmas